

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
INDIANA COMMISSION ON AUTISM**



**Indiana Legislative Services Agency
200 W. Washington Street, Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

November, 2005

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2005

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Attorney for the Commission

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A copy of this report is available on the Internet. Reports, minutes, and notices are organized by committee. This report and other documents for this Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.

I. STATUTORY DIRECTIVE

The Indiana General Assembly enacted legislation (IC 12-11-7-5 and IC 12-11-7-6) directing the Commission to do the following:

(1) Study the service delivery system for individuals with autism and the families of individuals with autism, including the following:

- (A) An analysis of the number of Indiana citizens believed to have autism.
- (B) Funding amounts and sources.
- (C) Types of expenditures and services provided.
- (D) The number of clients served.
- (E) Relationships among agencies and organizations.
- (F) Residential options for individuals with autism.

(2) Study the need and effectiveness of programs for individuals with autism.

(3) Oversee and update the development of a comprehensive plan for services for individuals of all ages with autism.

The Legislative Council did not assign any specific topics to the Commission for the 2005 interim.

II. SUMMARY OF WORK PROGRAM

The Commission met four times during the interim on August 10, 2005, September 12, 2005, September 28, 2005 and October 24, 2005.

During the 2005 interim, the Commission received information concerning the following:

(1) An update from the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) on changes to the Autism waiver, the Developmental Disability waiver, the Support Services waiver, and concerns related to case management, waiting lists and costs for services.

(2) An update from the ARC of Indiana regarding mental retardation and developmental disability issues relating to health insurance, priority criteria for Developmental disability waiver slots, First Steps, criminal justice issues, and the Rest Assured Project.

(3) An update from the Indiana Resource Center for Autism that included the accomplishments that the state of Indiana has made regarding autism, challenges the state will encounter, and how other states are responding to the growing number of persons diagnosed with autism.

(4) An update on the Fort Wayne State Developmental Center and the closure of

Muscatatuck State Developmental Center from the Bureau of State Operated Services.

(5) The history, services, and funding of the Christian Sarkine Autism Treatment Center.

(6) Services provided by health care professionals and possible national board certification of service providers.

The Commission passed by a vote of 12-0 each of the following draft resolutions to be introduced during the 2006 session of the General Assembly:

(1) Concerning medical students, specifically students majoring in the areas of pediatrics and family medicine, completing a rotation in a clinic with a history of diagnosing and treating people with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

(2) Encouraging the inclusion of Autism Spectrum Disorders as a topic for continuing education credits for physicians.

(3) Concerning the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration serving as the lead agency to oversee and update the development of a comprehensive plan for services for individuals of all ages with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

The Commission is not required to file a final report. Additional details concerning the Commission's proceedings are available in the Commissions's minutes, which can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.